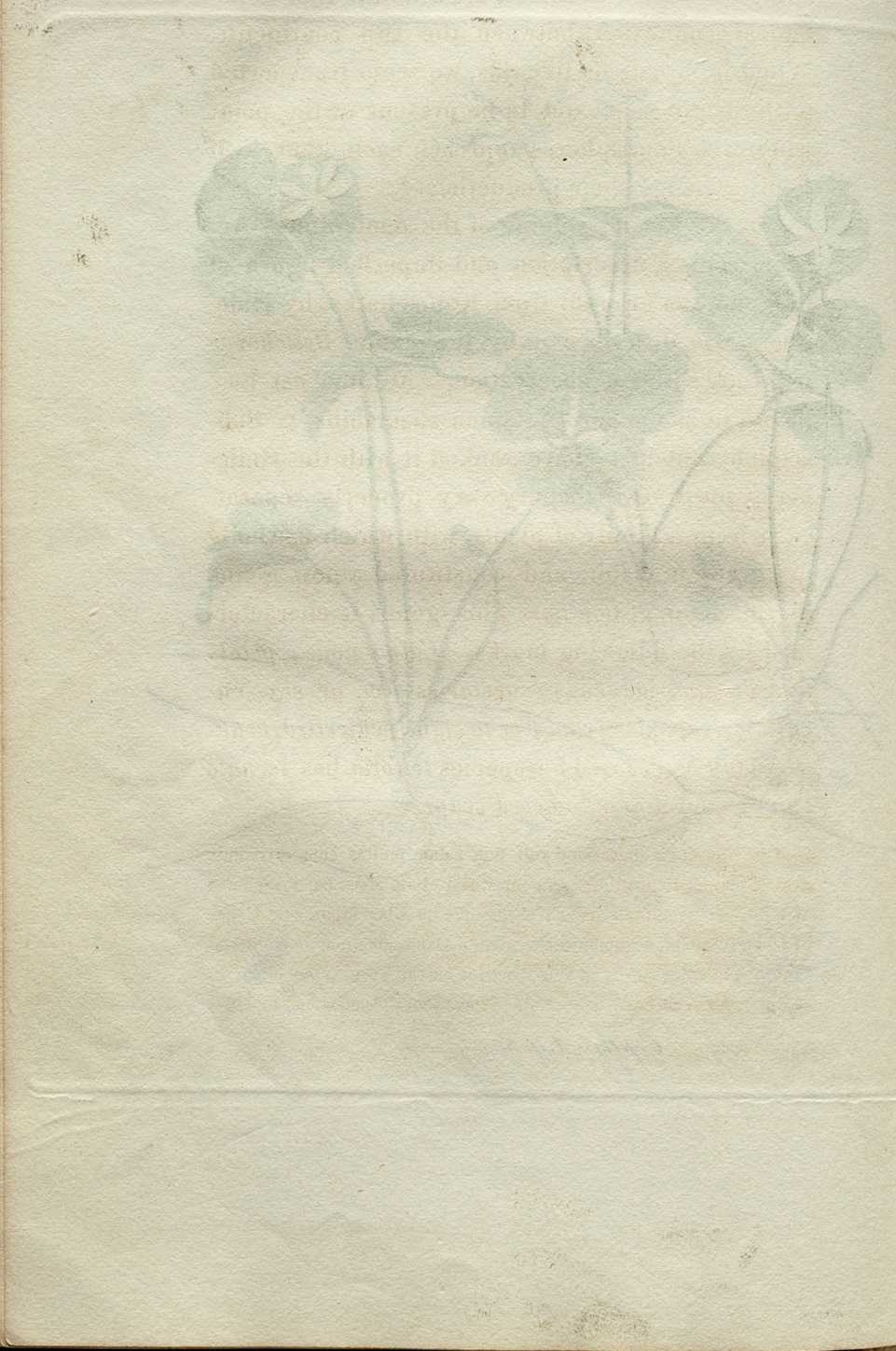

of high northern latitudes, it forms the link of botanical connexion between the two continents. When in situations like this, we seem transported to the frigid zone, and to be present at the point where the hemispheres approach each other, as if to interchange their productions.*

In the second volume of the Amœnitates Academicæ is a description and imperfect figure of this plant as brought from Kamschatka, by Halenius. He describes it by the name *Helleborus trifolius*, with the observation, "Minima est hæc planta in suo genere, attamen spectabilis." Subsequent botanists have ranked it with the Hellebores, until Mr. Salisbury very properly separated it from a family of plants, with which it wholly disagrees in habit, and constituted a new genus by the name of *Coptis*. This genus is characterized by the following marks. *Calyx none; petals five or six, caducous; nectaries five or six, cucullate; capsules from five to eight, pedicelled, beaked, many seeded.* The species *trifolia* has *ternate leaves*, and *a one flowered scape.*

* "Non sine admiratione vidi non solum multas cum rarissimis nostris plantis Lapponicis communes, sed etiam alias, partim ignotas omnino, partim minime tritas; et denique quasdam etiam cum Canadensibus easdem, argumento Canadam a Camscatca non longe distare, uti sequentes antea in sola America boreali visæ, nunc etiam in extrema ora Siberiæ." *Amœnitates Academicæ*, ii. 310.